

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Historic Preservation Council
March 7, 2012
One Constitution Plaza 2nd Floor
Hartford, Connecticut

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Nelson, Dr. Bellantoni, Ms. Cutler, Dr. Faber, Mr. Faude, Ms. Gilvarg, Dr. Harris, Ms. Kane, Ms. Maher, Dr. Robbins, Ms. Williams, and Dr. Woodward

STAFF: Deputy Commissioner Kip Bergstrom, Julie Carmelich, Susan Chandler, Mary Donohue, Mary Dunne, Dan Forrest, Laura Mancuso, Karin Peterson, and Stacey Vairo.

ABSENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nelson at 9:33 am.

2. REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES

Chairman Nelson noted that copies of the public comment procedures were available to the public at the door.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Nelson asked members to review the materials provided and disclose any real or apparent conflicts. Ms. Maher stated that she is the Executive Director/Curator of the Barnum Museum in Bridgeport and thus had a conflict with Item 8D #1. She will physically absent and recuse herself from the decision making process.

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Faude, second by Ms. Maher, to approve the minutes of February 1, 2011, with corrections. (Y-10, N-0, Dr. Bellantoni and Chair abstained)

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

No meetings have been held by the Executive Committee. An Executive Committee will be appointed by the Chair in a timely fashion.

6. STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Motion by Ms. Gilvarg, seconded by Ms. Dr. Bellantoni:

The Historic Preservation Council votes to list the following retired members on the State Register of Historic Places:

Timothy R. Beeble, Chair
Sharon Churchill, Vice Chair
Louise Costello
Katherine W. Green
Jean Russell Kelly
Richard L. Hughes, III
Donald Wills
(Y-10, N-0, Mr. Faude and Chair abstained)

Stacey Vairo noted that staff carefully reviewed the nominations. The unanimous opinion is that each of the resources above has made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. In addition, the resources possess extraordinary character and integrity, fully meeting or exceeding all the necessary criteria for designation. Staff enthusiastically recommends approval.

7. HISTORIC DISTRICTS/PROPERTIES

Mary Dunne provided a PowerPoint presentation of the local historic district and properties program.

Motion by Ms. Cutler, seconded by Ms. Williams:

The Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend approval of the study report submitted by the Town of Ridgefield Historic District Commission for the proposed Local Historic Property, 75 Olmstead Lane, Ridgefield, Connecticut.
(Y-11, N-0, Chair abstained)

Ms. Dunne noted that the map provided in the report materials was inaccurate and provided a corrected version.

Member discussed the alterations to the property. Ms. Gilvarg asked if the stone walls were included in the nomination. All existing features of the site, including the additions, are part of the nominated property.

8. SURVEY AND PLANNING GRANTS

Ms. Maher left the room at 10:26 in order to avoid a conflict of interest (see Item 3).

Motion by Dr. Faber, seconded by Ms. Kane:

1. The Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend the grant award listed below. Funded by the Community Investment Act administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development. All state and federal requirements shall be met by the applicants upon receipt of a grant.

**Bridgeport - The Barnum Museum Foundation Inc.
Architectural exhibit, historic architecture lectures, downtown Bridgeport
architectural walking tours. Part of a larger project.**

TOTAL= \$20,000 (Y-10, N-0, Ms. Maher recused, Chair abstained)

Mr. Faude stated that he found the budget sheet commendable; the best he has seen.

Ms. Maher returned at 10:35 am.

Motion by Dr. Woodward, seconded by Dr. Robbins:

1. The Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend the grant awards listed below. Funded by the Community Investment Act administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development. All state and federal requirements shall be met by the applicants upon receipt of a grant.

**Essex - Town of Essex
Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for Ivoryton, CT
\$10,000**

Manchester - Town of Manchester
Pre-development study for National Register property, Case Brothers Log Cabin, Condition assessment and structural soundness study
\$10,000

Stonington - Stonington Village Improvement Association
Individual National Register Nomination for the James Merrill House
\$12,100

TOTAL= \$32,100 (Y-11, N-0, Chair abstained)

Dr. Faber asked if the funding would have the potential to promote various historic preservation initiatives in the Town of Essex. Staff hopes that it will. Ms. Maher asked for an electronic copy of *Historic Preservation Toolbox*, published by the Town of Essex in April, 2011. A copy will be provided, if available.

Dr. Woodward asked if the pre-development study for the Case Brothers Log Cabin would be publicly accessible. The study will be available through the Town of Manchester.

Ms. Cutler asked if official materials verifying non-profit status were reviewed by staff prior to recommending grant awards. Staff requires a variety of additional materials not included in the agenda packet.

9. PRESERVATION RESTRICTIONS

Motion by Dr. Bellantoni, seconded by Mr. Faude:

The Historic Preservation Council votes to approve with conditions the construction on a rear addition and ADA-compliant ramp and entrance at the Union Society of Phoenixville Building, Located at 4 Hartford Turnpike in the Town of Eastford as submitted by Robert Hurd on February 15, 2012.

Dr. Woodward left the room at 10:51 am.

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Motion to amend resolution by Dr. Robbins, seconded by Mr. Faude. Motion to approve amended resolution by Ms. Maher, seconded by Dr. Robbins:

The Historic Preservation Council votes to approve with conditions the construction on a rear addition and ADA-compliant ramp and entrance at the Union Society of Phoenixville Building, Located at 4 Hartford Turnpike in the Town of Eastford as submitted by Robert Hurd on February 15, 2012, and as reviewed and approved by staff. (Y-10, N-0, Dr. Woodward absent, Chair abstained)

Julie Carmelich discussed the project and the proposed conditions for approval. Ms. Williams asked about the orientation of the building on the site. Chair Nelson asked about specifications. Project Architect Bob Hurd answered questions concerning the design and materials. Members requested that additional project-related details be provided in the future, but expressed confidence that staff was able to conduct the review appropriately nonetheless.

Dr. Woodward returned at 10:57 am.

10. ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVES - no business

11. REPORT ON MUSEUM PROPERTIES

Karin Peterson, Museum Director, provided an illustrated overview of the four historic sites (three are National Historic Landmarks) operated by the agency: Sloane Museum and Kent Iron Furnace in Kent, Henry Whitfield State Museum in Guilford, Prudence Crandall Museum in Canterbury, and the Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine in East Granby.

12. THREATENED BUILDINGS

Nothing to report.

13. REPORT ON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE ACTIVITIES

Deputy Commissioner Bergstrom reported that the approval to fill the Director of Culture position had been secured and that the job opening would be posted immediately. Chair Nelson has been asked to serve on the interview committee. The ideal candidate would have technical knowledge of historic preservation and a passion for art.

14. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS CONCERNS** - None

16. **OLD BUSINESS** - no business

17. **NEW BUSINESS** - no business

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made, and moved. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

Next Council Meeting

The next Historic Preservation Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 2012, at 9:30 am., One Constitution Plaza, Main Conference Room.

A training workshop with the Office of State Ethics will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan Chandler
Historical Architect and Council Liaison